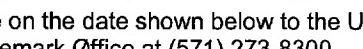


OK TO ENTER. /J.C./

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
diGirolamo et al.)
Serial No.: **10/701,190**) PATENT PENDING
Filed: November 4, 2003) Examiner: Jeanette Chapman
For: **STUD SPACER WITH INTERLOCKING**) Group Art Unit: 3633
PROJECTIONS) Confirmation No.: 5075
Docket No: **4782-042**)

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]</u>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:	
<input type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
<input type="checkbox"/> transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.	
<u>February 12, 2009</u>	
Date	Kathleen L. McDermott
This correspondence is being:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> electronically submitted via EFS-Web	

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

The present submission is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 22, 2009. Claims 1-44 are pending, and the Patent Office has issued a final rejection of all claims in this case. The final rejection has been carefully studied and reviewed. The Patent Office is respectfully requested to reconsider the claims in the present application for reasons set forth here below.

The Patent Office presents a collection of obviousness rejections in this case. Respectfully, the Patent Office has failed to make out a *prima facie* case of obviousness in any of the rejections. The form and content of the presentations of obviousness rejections renders the rejections difficult to understand. Generally, in all of the rejections, the Office Action lacks cogent articulation as to how teachings of the secondary references might be used to modify the